GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6419
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2002
SATELLITE USERS
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public and private users of the Indian satellites which are at present operating in the space and the charges being collected by the Government alongwith the details of expenditure being incurred on these satellites; and

(b) the new steps proposed to be taken by the Government to move the Indian space programme as self-reliant?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY O PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINIS OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) There are currently, more than 500 accredited users of Indian Satellites both in the public and private sectors. The public users of services of Indian satellites, Indian National Satellite System (INSAT) and Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS) are Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL), Prasara Bharati and several government Departments, viz., India Meteorological Department (IMD), National Informatics Centre (NIC), Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Communications & Information Technology, Ministry of Rural Development, etc. The private users of Indian Satellites include M/s. INTELSAT, International Telecommunication Organisation and Indian private TV broadcasters.

While it is difficult to compute the overall revenue earned by the Government considering the various spin off activities/benefits arising from the service of these satellites, the direct revenue earned by Department of Space including the domestic and the international segments is approximately Rs.410 crores during the 9th plan period.

The expenditure on INSAT and IRS satellites currently serving in orbit is Rs.2845 crores.

(b) The Indian Space programme is directed towards development and utilisation of space technology in a self-reliant manner for socio-economic development of the country. Towards meeting this objective, development of State-of-the-art cost- effective satellites and launch vehicles is being done on a continuing basis.